



City of Seattle

Greg Nickels, Mayor

Seattle Public Utilities

Chuck Clarke, Director

September 5, 2006

Dear Lakewood Resident,

This letter is to let you know that **Gilmore Research**, an independent contractor for Seattle Public Utilities, **will be calling you and your neighbors in the next few weeks to find out your opinions on a project we are considering for your neighborhood.**

Most rooftops in your neighborhood are connected to the combined sewer, which carries both sewage and stormwater to the wastewater treatment plant. However, during large storms, combined sewers may exceed capacity and overflow to Lake Washington causing a "combined sewer overflow" (CSO). The City of Seattle is actively working with King County and the Department of Ecology to reduce these overflows in your neighborhood and around the City.

The purpose of this phone survey is to gather your input about a potential project in your neighborhood to test homeowner strategies for reducing CSOs. This project would eliminate roof water from going into the system by disconnecting your downspout from the sewer and redirecting roof runoff into either a rain garden or cistern. The grant funded project would pay the cost for materials and installation and could begin as early as next spring. Before we decide how to proceed, we would like to hear from you, your interest, opinions and preferences about this potential project. The enclosed brochure describes more about rain gardens, cisterns and CSOs.

I encourage you to speak with the Gilmore Research Representative. The survey takes less than 10 minutes, and your input is important in helping the City make decisions regarding this potential project that in your neighborhood.

For more information about the survey and project, you can contact Miranda Maupin at (206) 386-9133 or email miranda.maupin@seattle.gov

Thank you for your time and interest in this project. Please keep this letter and brochure handy so you can refer to it when you get the phone call.

Sincerely,

Chuck Clarke

In addition to providing a reliable water supply to more than 1.3 million customers in the Seattle metropolitan area, SPU provides essential sewer, drainage, solid waste and engineering services that safeguard public health, maintain the city's infrastructure and protect, conserve and enhance the region's environmental resources.